

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/750,863

Examiner

Helene Klemanski

Applicant(s)

TAGUCHI ET AL.

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1755

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed December 28, 2005 and interview on January 6, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,5 and 7-12.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 010906.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Helene Klemanski
HELENE KLEMANSKI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1700

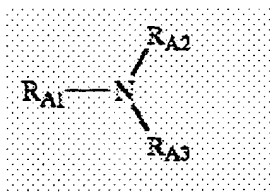
EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. John K. Shin on January 6, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 5, line 2, the phrase "the concentrated inkjet ink as claimed in claim 2" has been replaced with the phrase "a concentrated inkjet ink comprising a dye, water, a water-miscible organic solvent and at least one compound selected from an amino acid derivative containing an oil-soluble group having 6 or more carbon atoms and a metal chelating compound containing an oil-soluble group having 6 or more carbon atoms, wherein the amino acid derivative is a compound represented by the following formula (A):

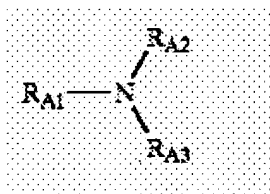


Formula (A)

wherein R_{A1} represents an alkyl group having 6 or more carbon atoms, and R_{A2} and R_{A3} each represent an alkyl group, a carboxyalkyl group or a sulfoalkyl group, provided that at least one of R_{A2} and R_{A3} is a carboxyalkyl group or a sulfoalkyl group"

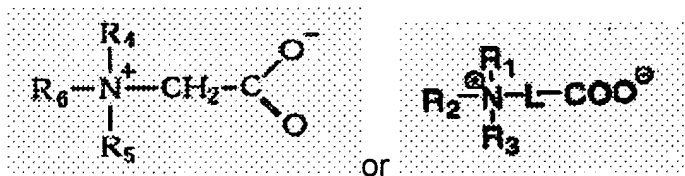
Reasons For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: This application teaches an inkjet ink or a concentrated inkjet ink comprising a dye, water, a water-miscible organic solvent and at least one compound selected from an amino acid derivative containing an oil-soluble group having 6 or more carbon atoms and a metal chelating compound containing an oil-soluble group having 6 or more carbon atoms, wherein the amino acid derivative is a compound represented by the following formula (A):



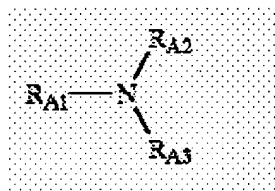
Formula (A)

wherein R_{A1} represents an alkyl group having 6 or more carbon atoms, and R_{A2} and R_{A3} each represent an alkyl group, a carboxyalkyl group or a sulfoalkyl group, provided that at least one of R_{A2} and R_{A3} is a carboxyalkyl group or a sulfoalkyl group. The closest prior art of record is EP 1213331 and EP 1375608, which both teach an inkjet ink composition comprising a coloring agent, water, a water-miscible organic solvent, a chelating agent and a compound of the formulas



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respectively wherein the substituents are defined in the specification (i.e. quaternary compounds) but fail to teach or fairly suggest the addition of an amino acid derivative of the formula



wherein R_{A1} represents an alkyl group having 6 or more carbon atoms, and R_{A2} and R_{A3} each represent an alkyl group, a carboxyalkyl group or a sulfoalkyl group, provided that at least one of R_{A2} and R_{A3} is a carboxyalkyl group or a sulfoalkyl group as claimed by applicants. Accordingly, this application is allowable.

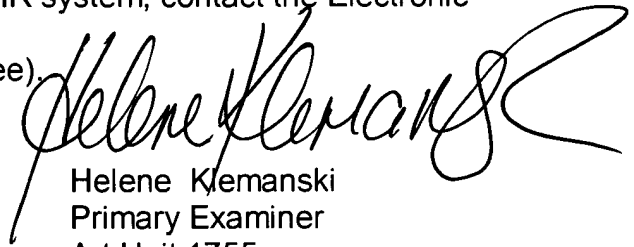
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Helene Klemanski whose telephone number is (571) 272-1370. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 5:30-2:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo can be reached on (571) 272-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Helene Klemanski
Primary Examiner
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HK
January 9, 2006